

Of all of our institutions, the media bear perhaps the most responsibility for protecting our country's founding principles by presenting well researched, unbiased information to their audiences. When Sinclair Broadcasting made the decision to air Stolen Honor, a completely biased documentary against Senator John Kerry, it trounced all over that responsibility.

The fact that Sinclair will evidently "get away" with this, speaks volumes about the dangers of media consolidation and its total lack of respect for (and understanding of) fairness in what they present.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.